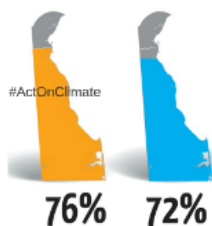
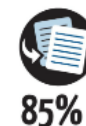




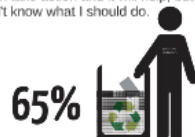
## Survey Says...

# Delaware's Statewide Survey of Residents' Opinions of Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Five Years Later

The flattest state prepares for the future



I can take action and it will help, but I don't know what I should do.



Ok, so now what?



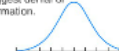
Citizens



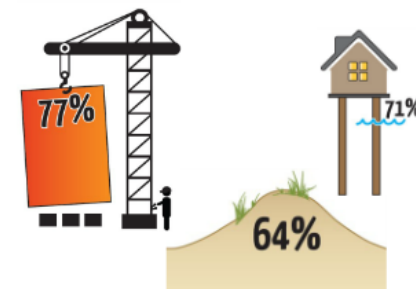
Decision-Makers

What's the bottom line?

- Trends towards the extremes.
- Slight decrease in the responses that suggest denial or misinformation.



Delawareans support key strategies to respond to and prepare for sea level rise.



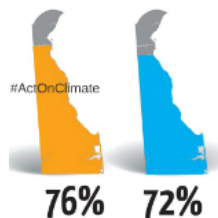
College of Earth, Ocean, & Environment



## Survey Says...

# Delaware's Statewide Survey of Residents' Opinions of Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Five Years Later

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I can take action and it will help, but I don't know what I should do.

65%



Ok, so now what?



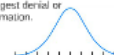
Citizens



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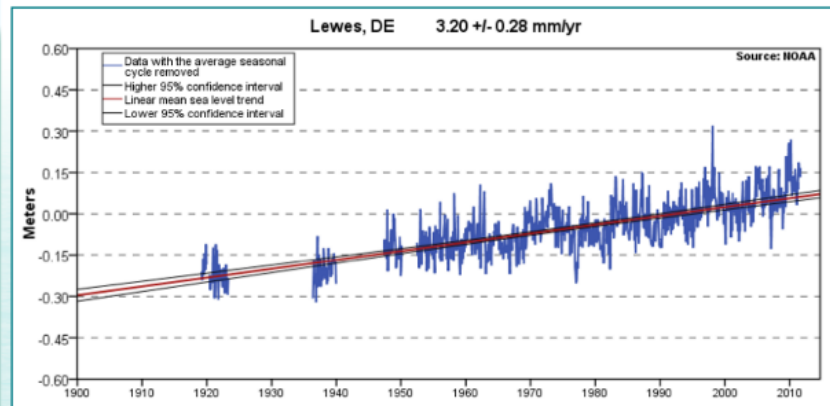


College of Earth, Ocean, & Environment

# The flattest state prepares for the future

Global rate = 1.7 mm / yr.

Delaware rate = 3.35 mm/yr.  
(13 inches/100 years)



This graph shows the observed local mean sea level trend in Lewes Delaware since 1919. The current local sea level rise trend in Lewes is 0.13 inches per year. Scientists believe that seas will rise at an accelerated rate in coming decades as a result of global climate change.



## Scenarios for 2100

0.5 meter increase

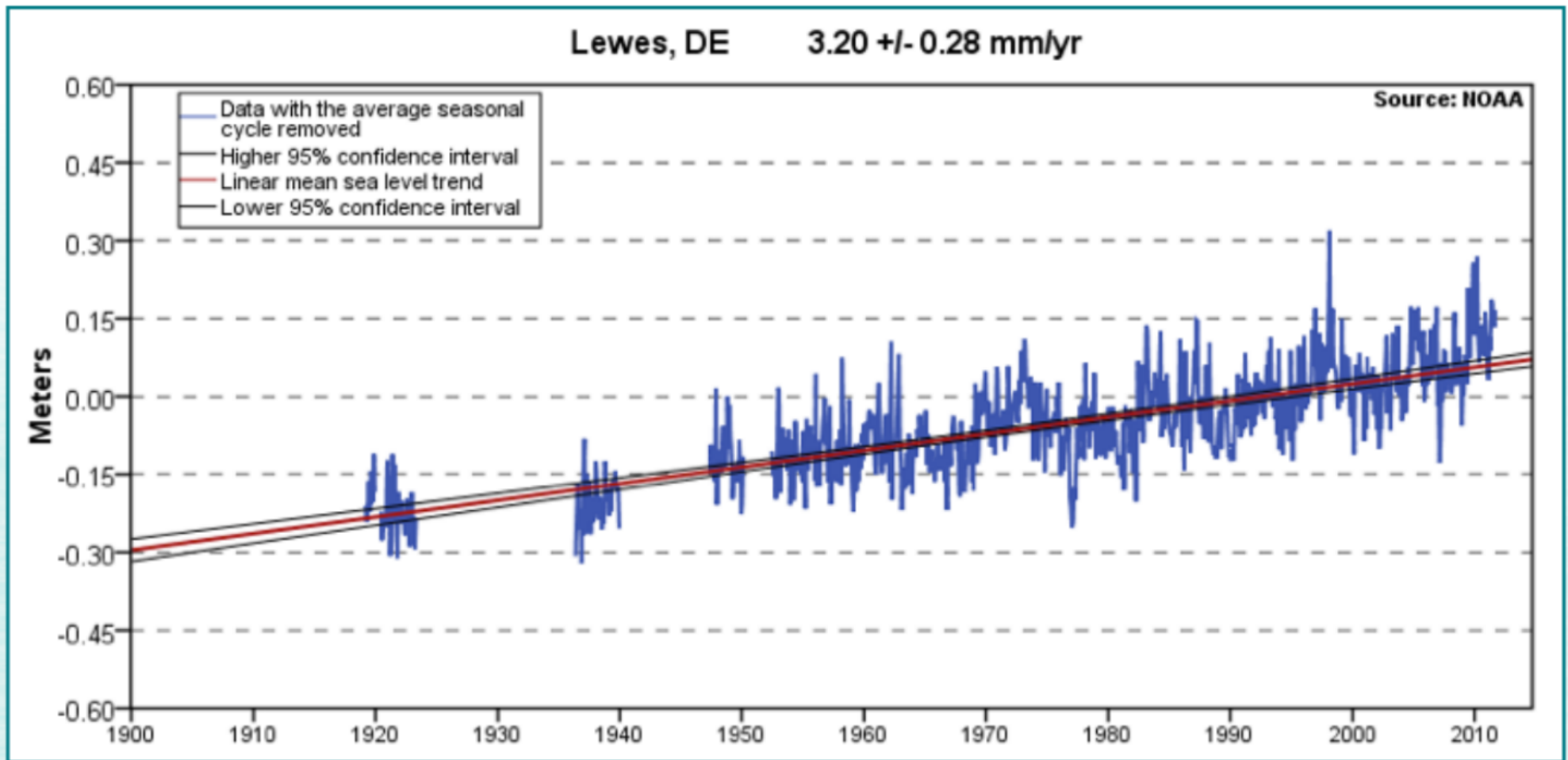
1.0 meter increase

1.5 meter increase

<http://de.gov/slrmmap>

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## Sea Level Rise Inundation

Sea Level Rise Scenarios for the State of Delaware

A story map [f](#) [t](#) [v](#)

 **State of Delaware**  
The Official Website of the First State

700 Pilottown Rd, Lewes, Delaw

The rising and spreading of water over normally dry land is referred to as inundation. Scientists from Delaware Coastal Programs used a simple model to develop a map to show the possible impacts of inundation based on various sea level rise scenarios for Delaware's waterways and the land that surrounds them (watersheds). This map reflects the filling of these watersheds at constant elevations also referred to as 'Bath Tub' modeling. In other words, the map shows the water levels rising in the watersheds similar to the 'filling of a bathtub'. For more information click [here](#).

### Legend

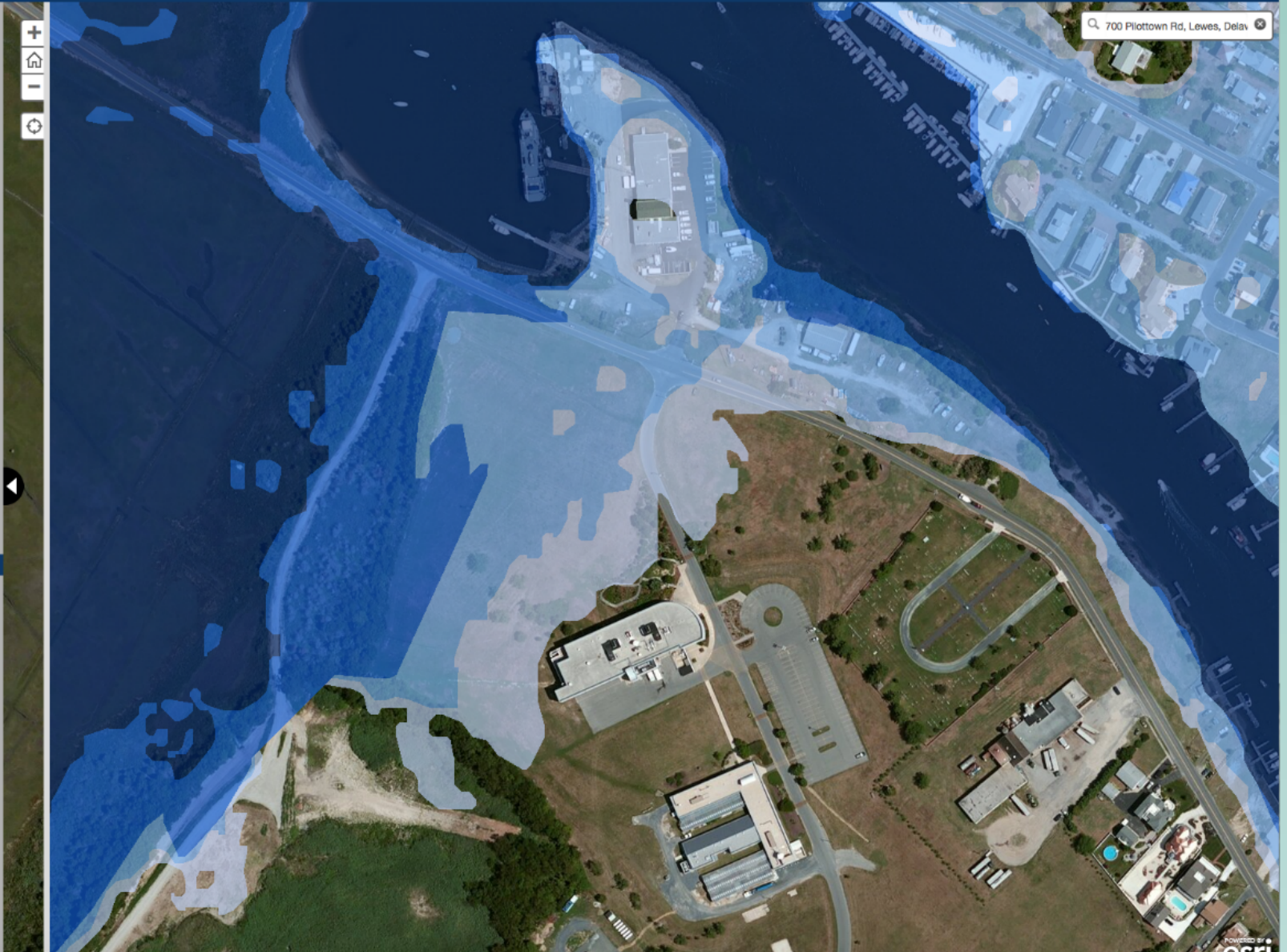
#### Sea Level Rise Scenarios

Mean Higher High Water (MHHW)

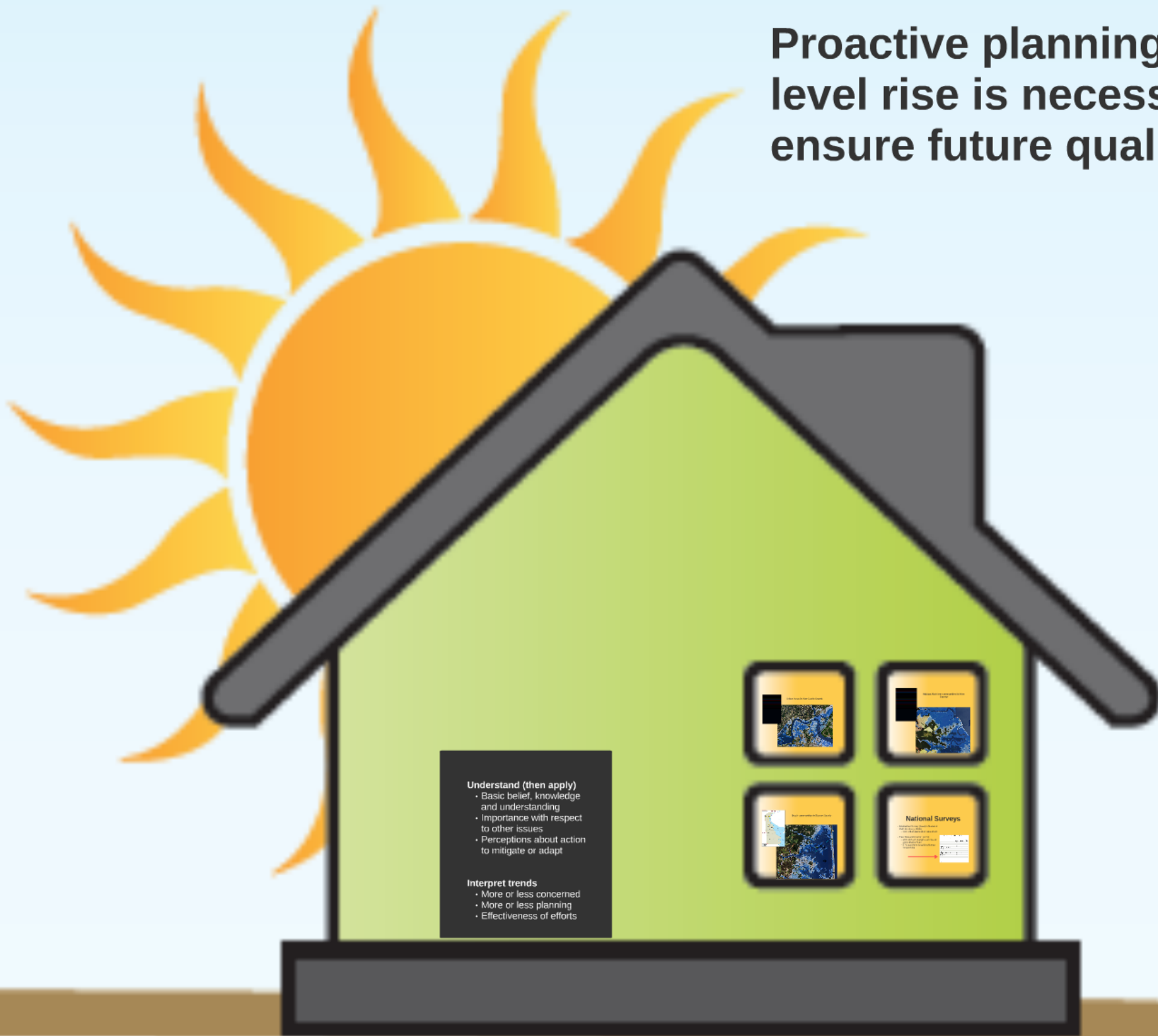
0.5 Meters

1.0 Meter

1.5 Meters



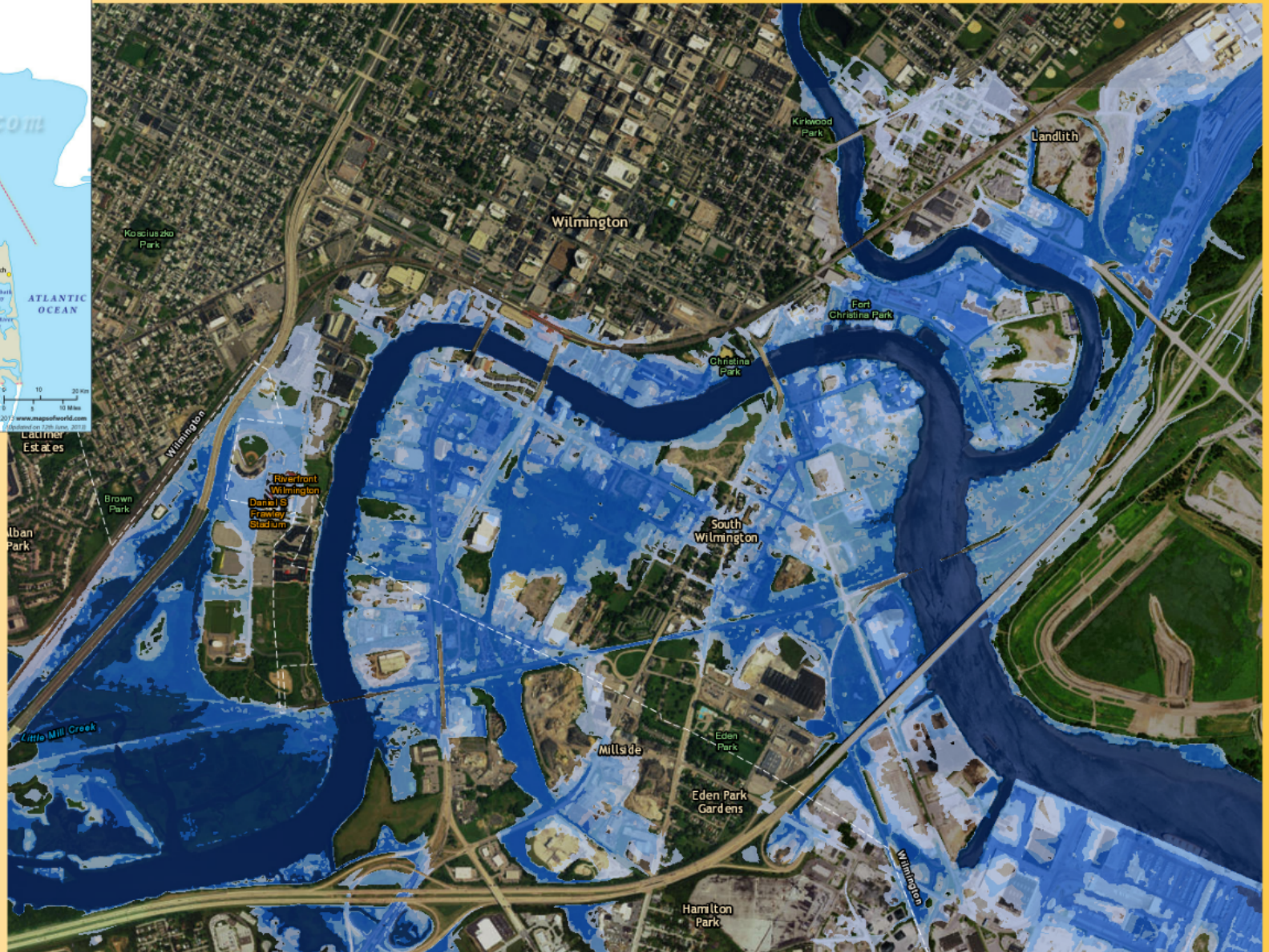
**Proactive planning for sea level rise is necessary to ensure future quality of life.**







## Urban Areas in New Castle County





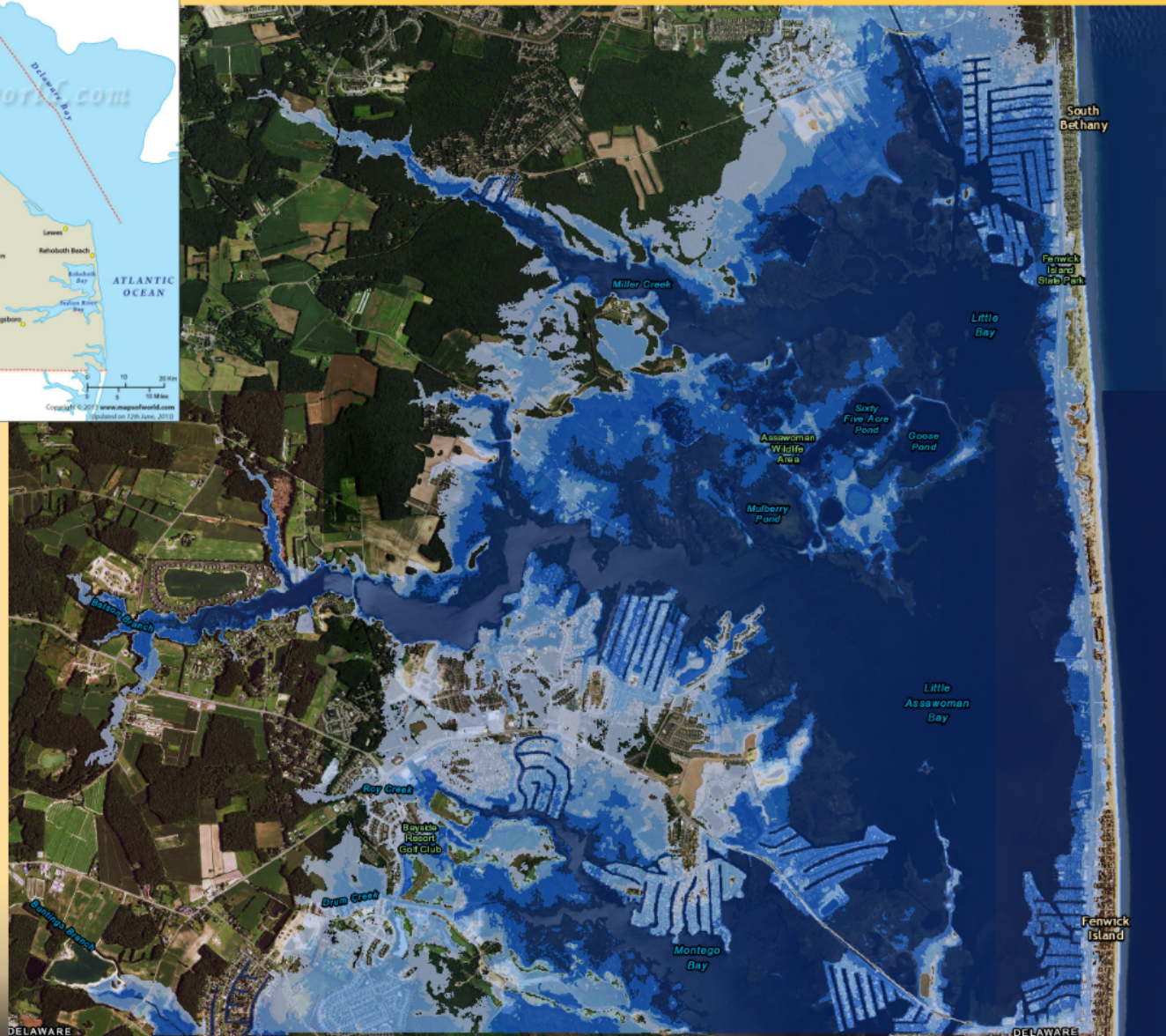


## Habitat, Maritime Communities in Kent County





## Beach communities in Sussex County





# National Surveys

- 6 Americas Survey (George Mason & Yale University, 2009)
  - 51% either alarmed or concerned
- Pew Research Center (2009)
  - 65% climate change is serious or somewhat serious
  - 57% say there is solid evidence for warming



## Americans' Level of Worry About National Problems -- 2014 Rank Order

Next, I'm going to read a list of problems facing the country. For each one, please tell me if you personally worry about this problem a great deal, a fair amount, only a little, or not at all? First, how much do you personally worry about ... [RANDOM ORDER]?

	Great deal	Fair amount	A little/ not at all
	%	%	%
The economy	59	29	11
Federal spending and the budget deficit	58	22	20
The availability and affordability of healthcare	57	20	23
Unemployment	49	28	23
The size and power of the federal government	48	20	31
The Social Security system	46	29	24
Hunger and homelessness	43	33	23
Crime and violence	39	31	29
The possibility of future terrorist attacks in the U.S.	39	24	37
The availability and affordability of energy	37	30	33
Drug use	34	29	37
Illegal immigration	33	24	42
The quality of the environment	31	35	34
Climate change	24	25	51
Race relations	17	26	56

Question asked of a half sample  
March 6-9, 2014

GALLUP®

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## **Understand (then apply)**

- Basic belief, knowledge and understanding
- Importance with respect to other issues
- Perceptions about action to mitigate or adapt

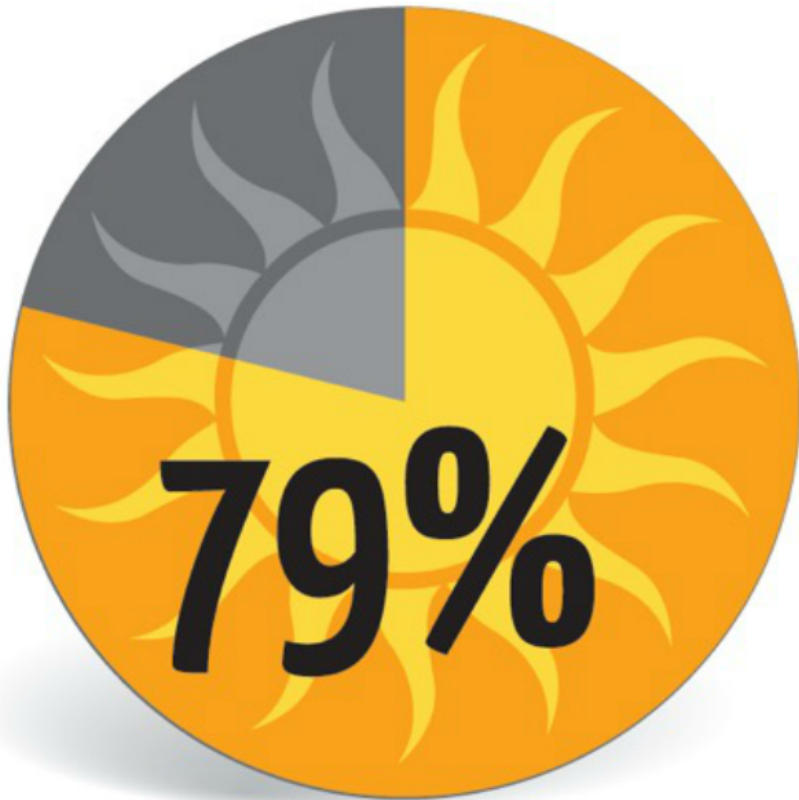
## **Interpret trends**

- More or less concerned
- More or less planning
- Effectiveness of efforts

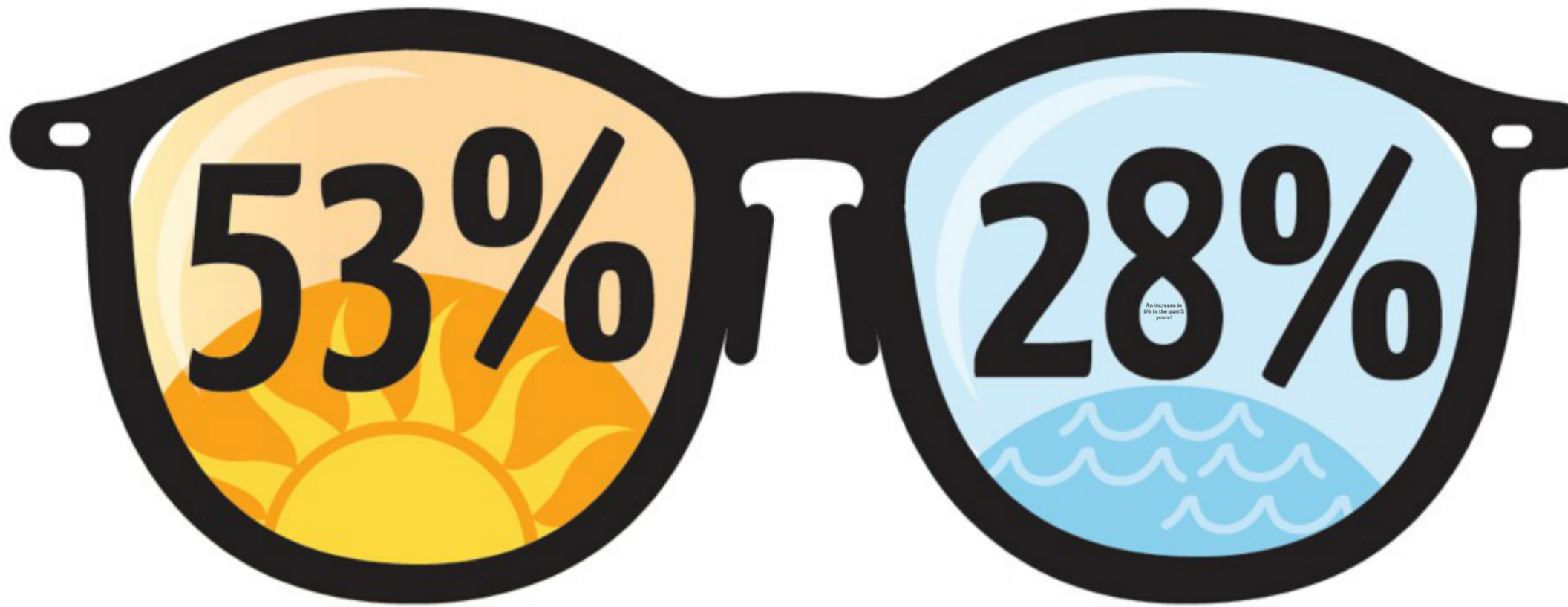
## Survey Methods

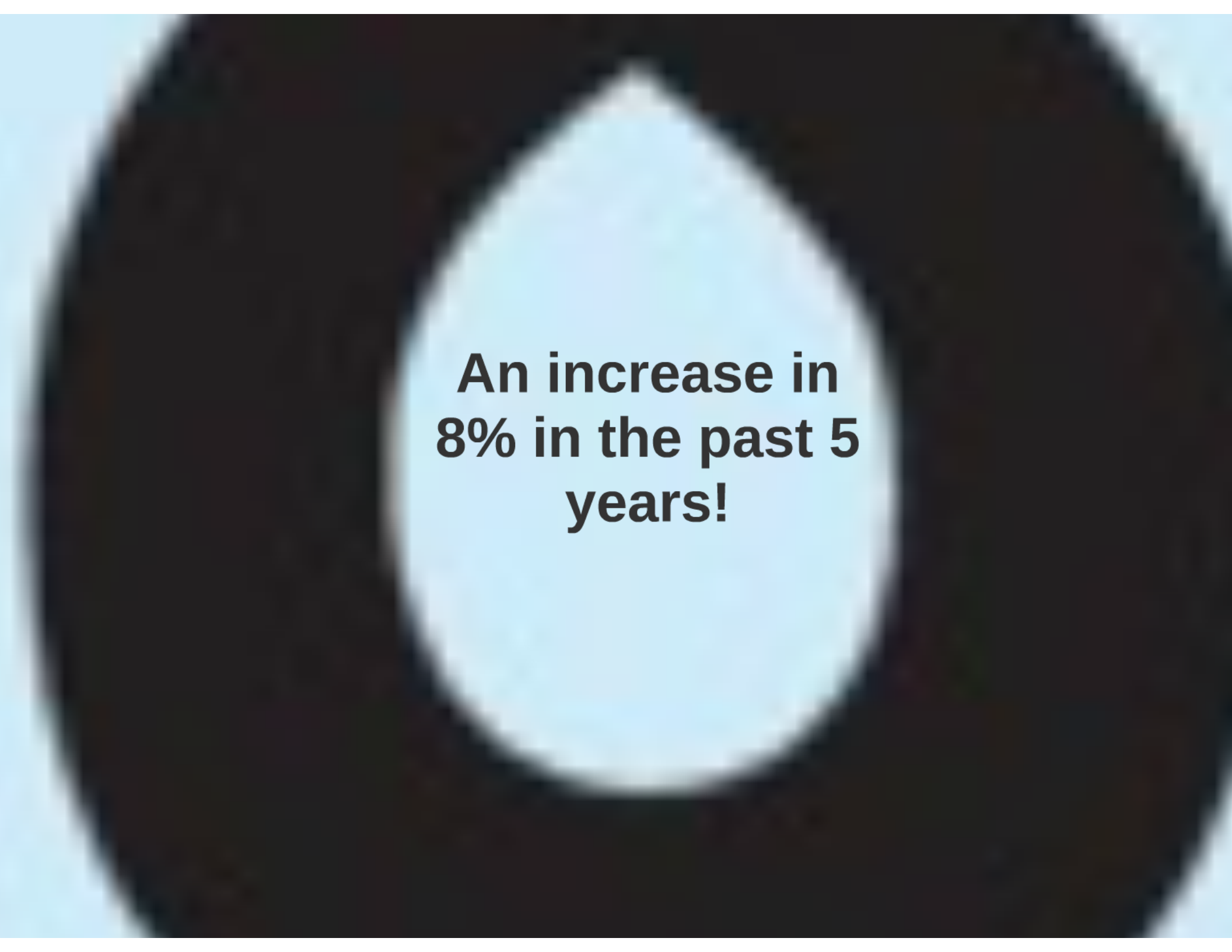
- N=1,505 / 1,508
- Cell and landlines
- 153 questions
- Population of 685,085 residents age 18 and older











**An increase in  
8% in the past 5  
years!**

#ActOnClimate



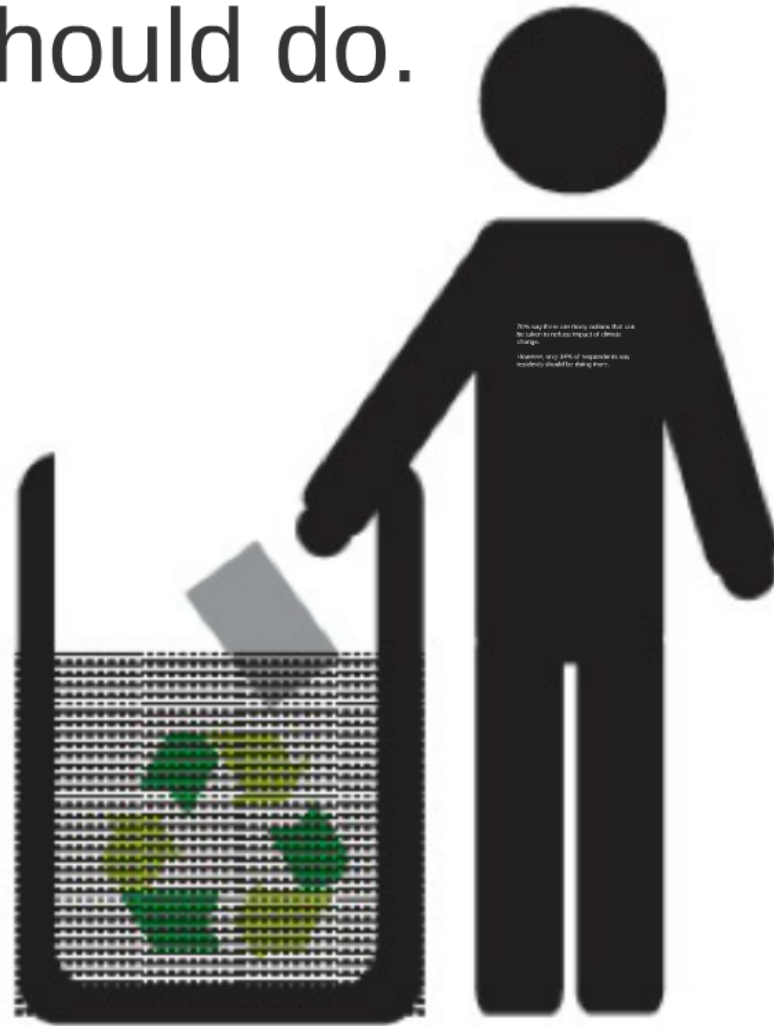
**76%**



**72%**

I can take action and it will help, but I don't know what I should do.

65%



70% say there are many actions that can be taken to reduce impact of climate change.

However, only 34% of respondents say residents should be doing more.







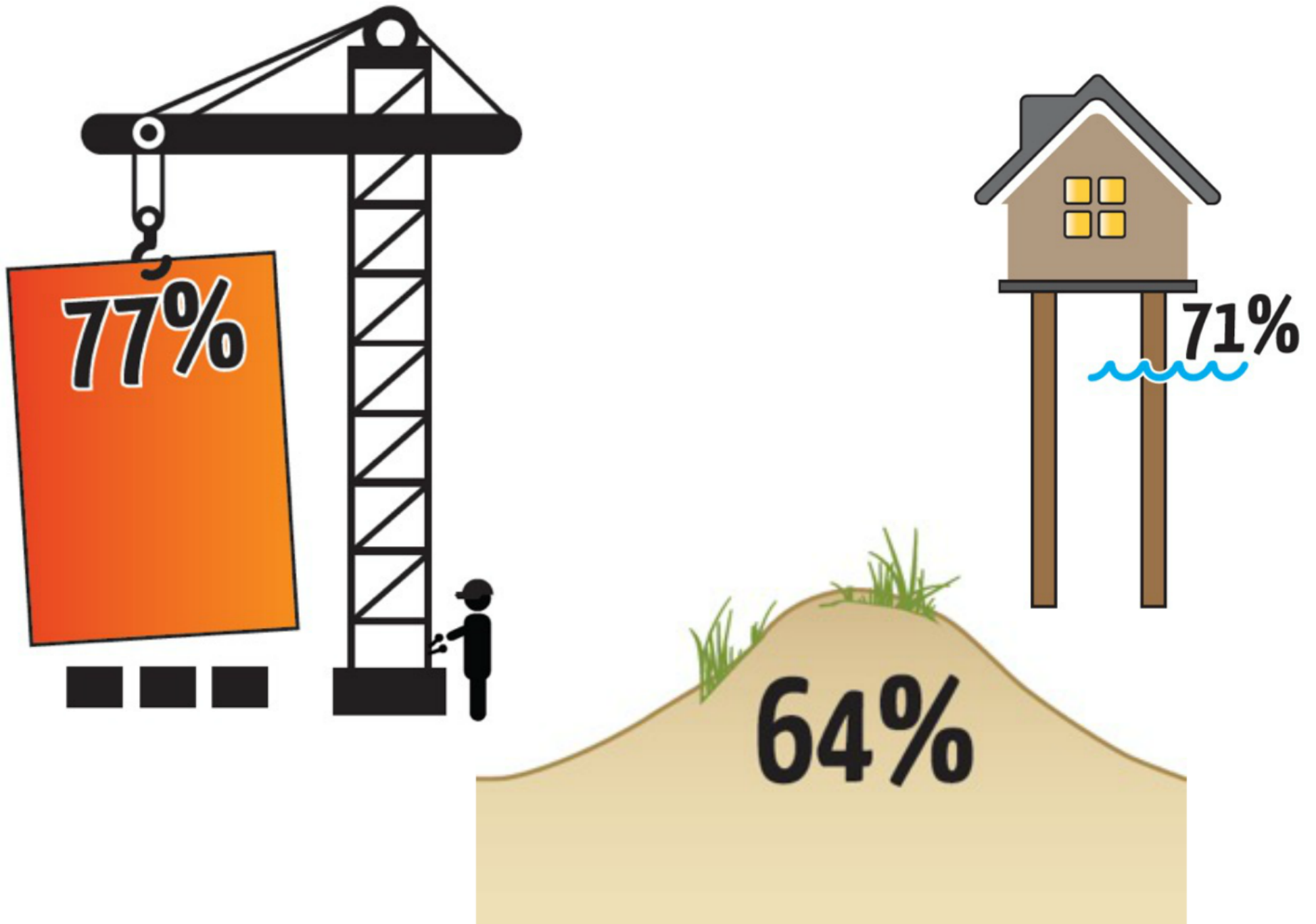
**85%**



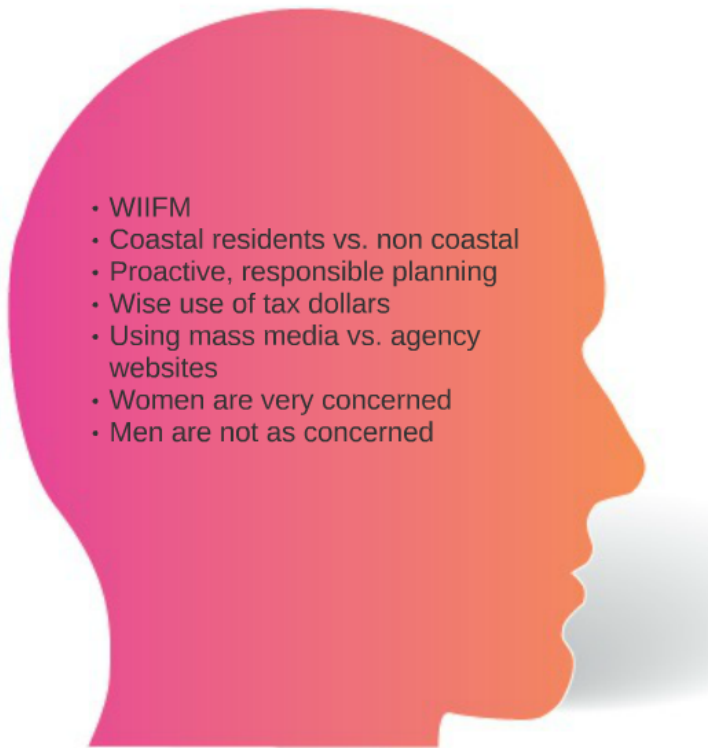
**72%**

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respond to and prepare for sea level rise.



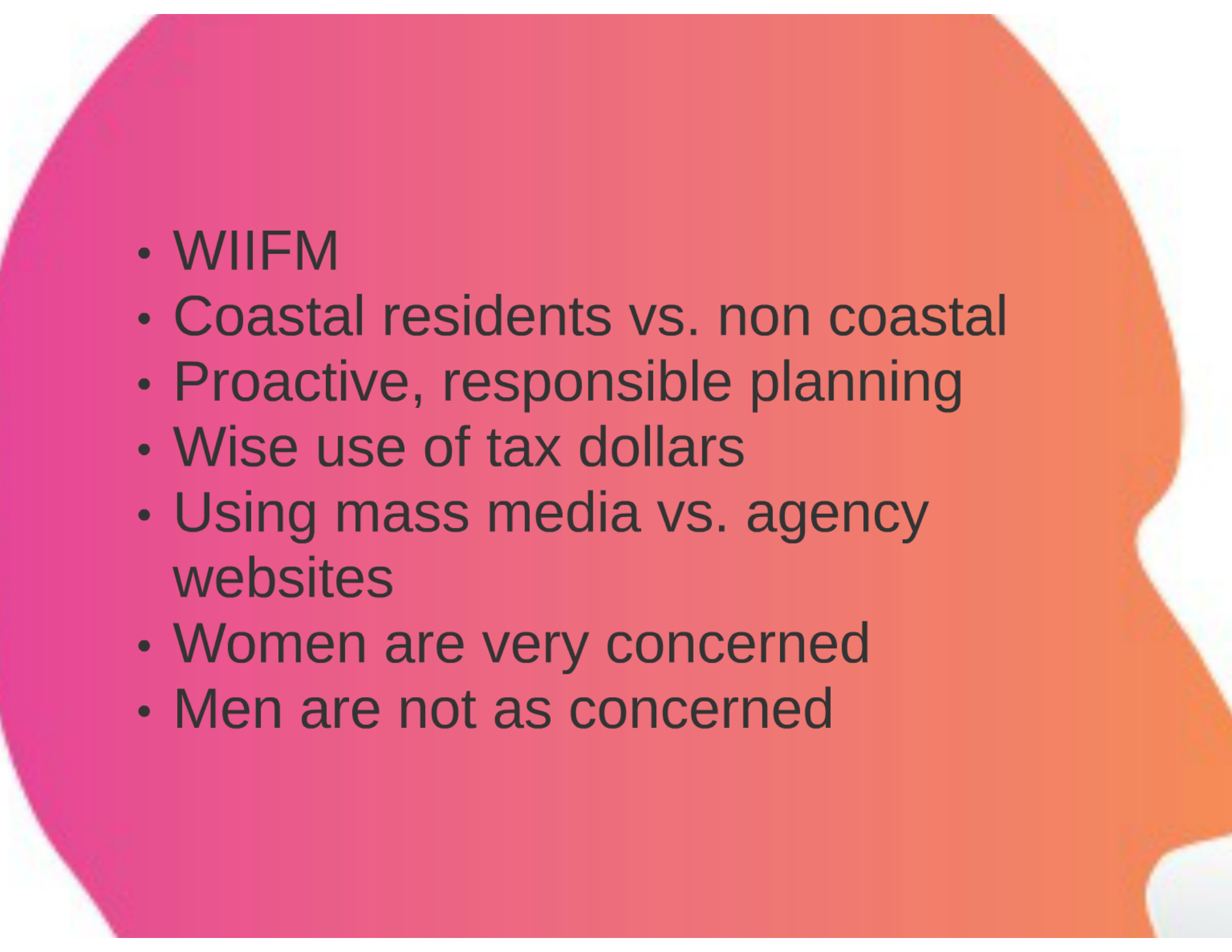
# Ok, so now what?



Citizens



Decision-Makers

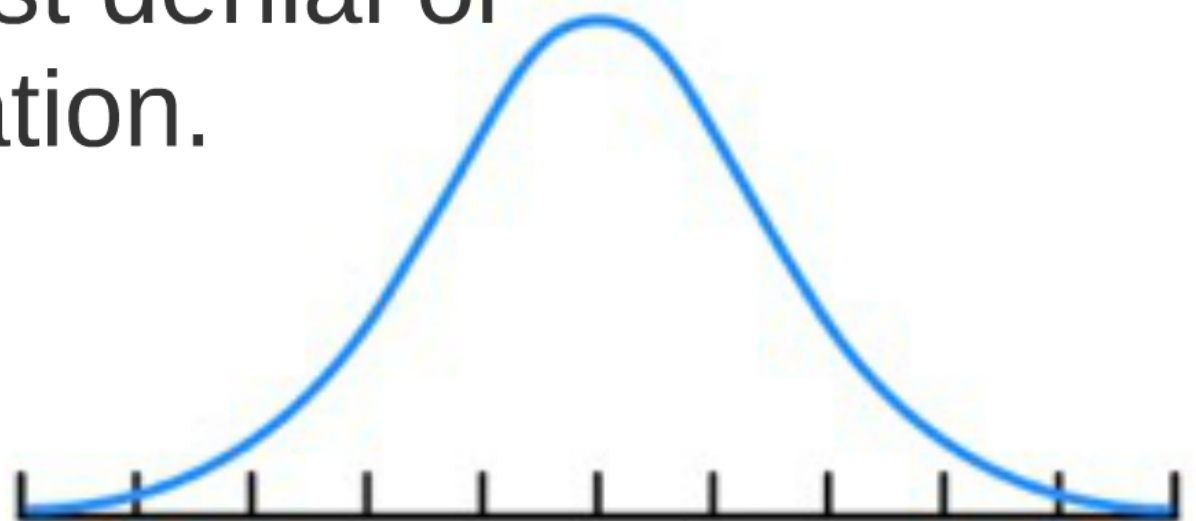
- 
- A stylized profile of a human head facing right, composed of two overlapping shapes: a bright pink one in the foreground and a lighter orange one behind it. The background is white.
- WIIFM
  - Coastal residents vs. non coastal
  - Proactive, responsible planning
  - Wise use of tax dollars
  - Using mass media vs. agency websites
  - Women are very concerned
  - Men are not as concerned



- Constituent support for planning
- Constituent support for research funding and a variety of adaptation options
- Mass media vs. agency websites

# What's the bottom line?

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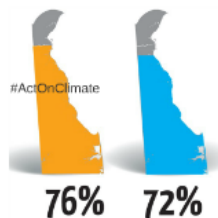




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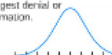
Citizens



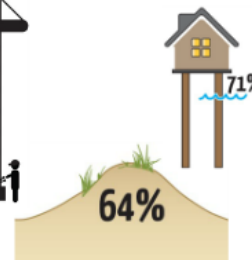
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